

# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## NEWS OPPORTUNITY ADVISORY

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## TEST SCORE DATA TO BE RELEASED; BRIEFING SCHEDULED

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – Test score data and other items related to the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act and the Kentucky Core Content Tests (KCCT) will be publicly released on Wednesday, September 23. Education Commissioner Terry Holliday will host a news briefing on Tuesday, September 22, to provide background on the data.

The information will be embargoed until 12:01 a.m. EDT on the 23rd, meaning that articles and other references to the data may be published, posted or broadcast at any time that day.

School districts will receive their data early under the embargo, so that they may review and prepare for the public release. News media representatives will be provided the data early under the embargo so that they may prepare stories to be published, posted or broadcast on that day.

Education Commissioner Terry Holliday will host a news briefing on Tuesday, September 22, at 10 a.m. EDT in the State Board Room on the first floor of the Capital Plaza Tower in Frankfort. The briefing is designed to provide media representatives and others opportunities to ask questions and get information about the data. The briefing will be webcast, and further information about that will be provided prior to September 22.

With the passage of Senate Bill 1 in the 2009 session of the Kentucky General Assembly, the state's system of assessment and accountability for public schools was changed. Senate Bill 1 requires that public school students continue to be tested through the KCCT in reading, mathematics, science, social studies and writing-on-demand, and the results of the reading and mathematics tests are used to comply with the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

(more)

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Senate Bill 1 also mandates that, until a new system of assessment and accountability is in place in the 2011-12 school year, Kentucky public schools will be held publicly accountable through NCLB.

NCLB requires that states assess public school students in grades 3-8 in reading and mathematics and publicly report the percentages of students who reach proficient and higher levels in those subjects. Schools and districts are judged on whether they have made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in those subjects and other indicators. Consequences may be applied if schools or districts funded through the federal Title I program do not make AYP.

Kentucky will apply NCLB criteria to all of its public schools and report their AYP status in this data release. The Kentucky Department of Education will provide assistance and resources to those schools that are subject to NCLB consequences, regardless of their Title I status.

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